



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

INDIAN HEAD DIVISION  
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***IHDIV Holds ATOS Demonstration***

Today, the Indian Head Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center (IHDIV, NSWC) performed the first demonstration of the Advanced Technology Ordnance Surveillance (ATOS) System.

The ATOS Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration (ACTD) program will transform the management of the DoD's approximate \$85 billion munitions inventory in two key approaches. First, the system provides critical environmental exposure data that will allow scientists and engineers to more accurately predict the future safe and reliable service life of critical munitions. Second, the system will automate the currently manual and labor-intensive receipt and inventory processes, which will greatly improve inventory accuracy while reducing the labor burden on our troops.

Ms. Betsy DeLong, the ATOS program manager, provided an overview of the system to top-level military and DoD representatives from all four services after which all had an opportunity to view the system in operation.

CAPT Marc Siedband, IHDIV Commander commented, "I'm consistently impressed by the innovative applications of new technology by the engineers and scientists of the IHDIV. Developing and fielding a system like ATOS will have a widespread positive impact throughout the Defense industry and will bring an improved design into the hands of the warfighter."

The expected Return On Investment (ROI) for the Navy alone is significant – at an estimated \$40 million. A full ROI analysis for all services is underway. The ATOS team is currently working on a joint transition plan for the system to start implementing in FY04. Because of the substantial benefits of this system there is great interest in using the same technology for other commodities. The ATOS system is designed so that it can be easily modified to support similar life cycle management applications for other commodities.

The ATOS ACTD was kicked off at the IHDV in April 2001. ACTDs reduce the time required to field new systems and increase user involvement in system design and integration. Over 60 proposals were submitted by the military services to the unified

commanders. After a three-year proposal development effort, IHDIV's Advanced Technology Ordnance Surveillance (ATOS) project was selected by the Secretary of Defense. Sponsored by the U.S. European Command, the IHDIV ATOS ACTD project brings approximately \$14.2M to IHDIV, which will afford work efforts on ATOS from 2001 - 2003.

Steve Mitchell, Interim Executive Director commented, "The ATOS system sets the stage to dramatically increase inventory accuracy and our knowledge of ordnance conditions." Goals of the program, beyond proof of concept, are selecting best-of-breed systems and peripheral equipment, determining Service-specific requirements and associated integration requirements, and developing DoD wide specifications for ultimate procurement implementation.

The IHDIV is a Navy laboratory located in Charles County Maryland. The IHDIV specializes in the research, development, technology, and engineering of explosives and propellants and their related applications. The IHDIV and its five major tenant commands employ a workforce of 3,000 which amounts to a \$200M annual payroll.

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